

#10 a
alpha
2/4/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Gong, Kufe, Nicolette and Roberts
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/782,492 EXAMINER : Qian J. Li
FILING DATE : February 12, 2001 ART UNIT : 1632
FOR : CELL FUSIONS AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING THE SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 29, 2002. A petition for a three-month extension of time and required fee are filed herewith. With the extension of time, this Response is due on or before January 29, 2003. No additional fees are believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 20363-004 (DFCI-4).

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-31, 56-83 and 86-88, without prejudice or disclaimer, as being drawn to non-elected inventions. Cancel claims 33-34, 40-41, 43-44, 50-51 and 85, add new claims 89-90 and replace the pending claims with the following:

32. (Amended) A substantially pure population of educated, antigen-specific immune effector cells expanded in culture by contacting said immune effector cells with hybrid cells, wherein said hybrid cells are generated by fusion between at least one mammalian dendritic cell and at least one mammalian tumor or cancer cell that expresses a cell-surface antigen, wherein the dendritic cell and the cancer or tumor cell are from the same mammalian species, wherein the dendritic cell can process and present antigens, and wherein at least half of the hybrid cells